

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-9 with the corresponding amended claims.

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1. (Amended) A method for treating mechanical pulp, comprising adding an aliphatic percarboxylic acid to the pulp, in the amount of 0.5-5 kg/ton of pulp, to affect the opacity.
 2. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of aliphatic percarboxylic acid that is added is 1-3 kg/ton of pulp.
 3. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is selected from among performic acid, peracetic acid or perpropionic acid.
 4. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is distilled or equilibrated peracetic acid.
 5. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added to the pulp in connection with or after bleaching.
 6. (Amended) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the pulp has been bleached with hydrogen peroxide and/or dithionite.

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7. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added at a pulp consistency of 1-40%.

8. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a mixture of aliphatic percarboxylic acid and Caro's acid is added to the pulp.

9. (Amended) A method of using aliphatic percarboxylic acid, comprising adding the acid to a mechanical pulp to improve opacity, in which the amount of percarboxylic acid is 0.5-5 kg/ton of pulp.

Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.